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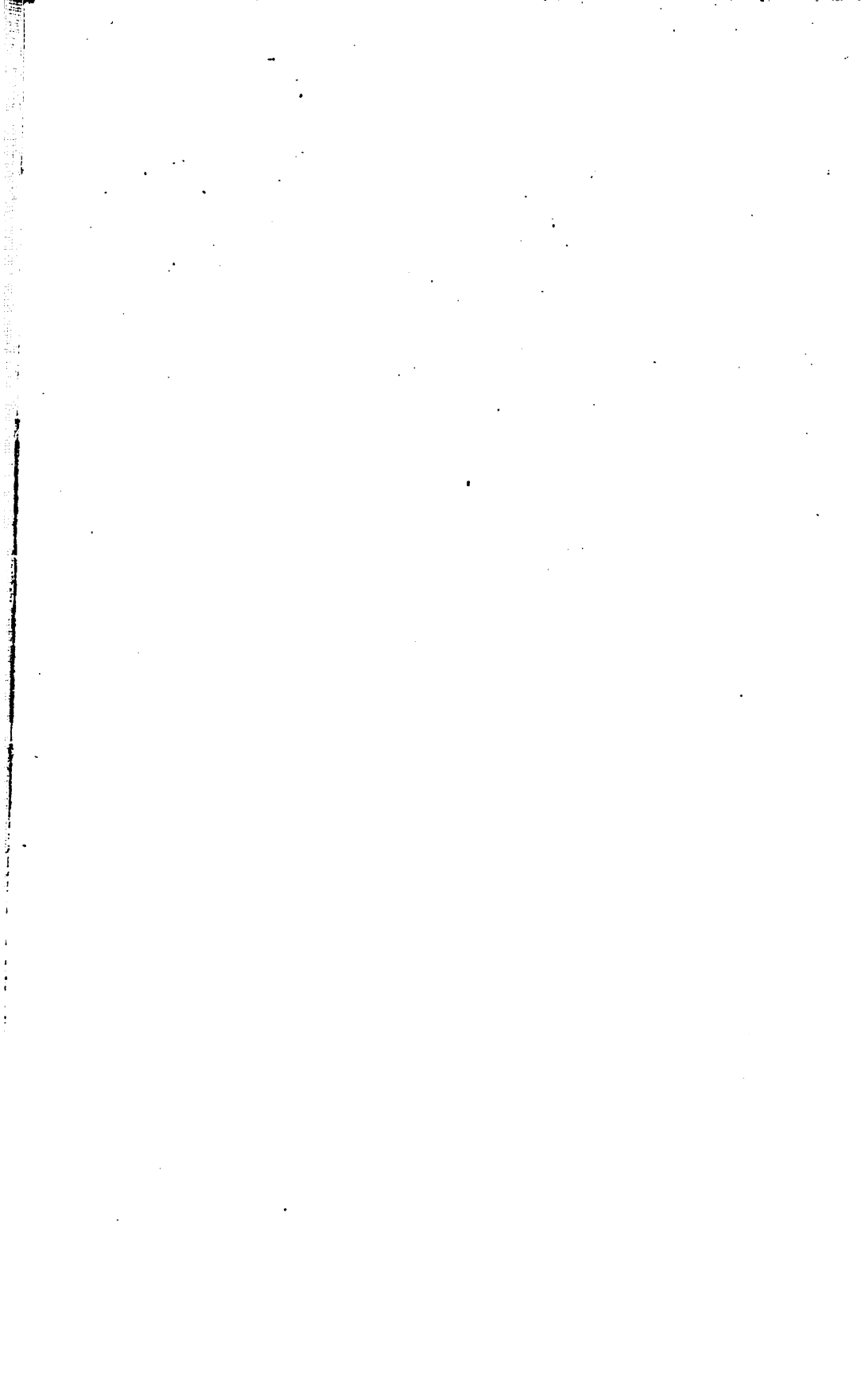


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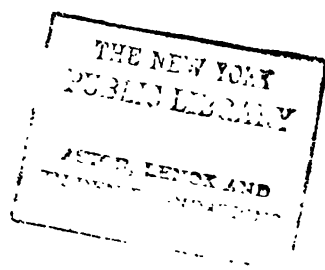














**John S. Kenyon**



Kenyon, John S.

**A Memorial**

of

**John S. Kenyon**

**Proceedings of the Legislature**

of the

**State of New York**

and

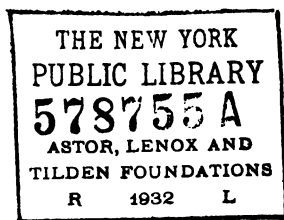
**Testimonials of Friends**

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**1903**

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ROY W. W. W.  
J. J. J.  
V. V. V.



**T**HIS book is printed for distribution among the friends of John S. Kenyon. His gentle nature won for him the love and esteem of all who knew him. His life was a hope and inspiration. His memory is sweet and sacred.

JAMES B. LYON.



# In Memoriam



**John S. Kenyon**

**Born May 5, 1843**

**Died February 16, 1902**





## John S. Kenyon



**J**OHN S. KENYON, Secretary of the State Board of Railroad Commissioners, and one of the most widely known Republicans of the State, died Sunday night, February 16, 1902, at his home in "The Kenyon," Syracuse, N. Y.

Mr. Kenyon was taken sick at Albany Thursday morning, and Friday afternoon was removed to Syracuse on the Empire State Express. His family physician was at once summoned, and diagnosed his disease as appendicitis. A consultation of physicians was held and an operation was decided upon. This was performed during the night.

At the operation it was found that the disease had advanced very rapidly and was extremely serious.

He rallied from the operation, and Saturday his condition was considered favorable. But trouble with the heart developed, and Sunday afternoon he commenced to fail. Oxygen and high stimulants were administered, but they failed to keep the patient alive, and the end came at 10:40 o'clock.





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## **A Memorial**

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John S. Kenyon was born in Schoharie county, May 5, 1843, and spent his boyhood days in that place, where he attended the public schools and commenced the study of law.

When a mere boy he enlisted as a volunteer in the War of the Rebellion, joining Company D, of what was called Van Alen's Cavalry, one of the first companies formed in the eastern part of the State. The Regiment later was known as the Third New York Cavalry.

He enlisted as a private and was successively promoted to corporal, sergeant, first sergeant, and second lieutenant.

He served with distinction during the war and for distinguished acts of bravery was granted the Congressional medal of honor. He was a member of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion, and a charter member of Root Post, G. A. R.

After the war he moved to this county with his father, Charles Grosvenor Kenyon, locating in Baldwinsville in 1866, engaging in the flour business. About ten years later he moved to Syracuse, where he made his home.

Mr. Kenyon was originally a Democrat, but soon after coming to Syracuse he became a Republican, and ever since has been one of the most active and influential workers, both in this county and the State.



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## John S. Kenyon

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For many years Mr. Kenyon has been in public life. He was appointed assistant clerk of the State Assembly about 1877, and because of his tact, faithfulness, and natural adaptability for the work, he has since been appointed to many confidential positions. He served as assistant clerk of the State Senate in 1880-1881, and 1886-1887. In 1882-1883 he served as reading clerk of the House of Representatives.

In 1888 Mr. Kenyon was chosen clerk of the State Senate and he held that position, with the exception of 1891 and 1892, until 1898, when he was chosen Secretary of the State Board of Railroad Commissioners, succeeding Charles R. De Freest.

Mr. Kenyon was Secretary of the Republican County Committee of this county from 1879 to 1888, inclusive. In 1889 he was chosen Chairman of the Committee, and held the position for many years. In 1890 he was made Secretary of the Republican State Committee, and held that position for ten successive years. In 1891 he was chosen Secretary of the Republican State Convention, and has acted in that capacity at all important conventions ever since.

Mr. Kenyon was a man of mild and genial disposition and well-balanced intellect. His judgment was clear and decisive and his understanding of political matters was comprehensive and exact. He was close





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## A Memorial

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to the most prominent men in the party in New York State, and confidence in him was almost unlimited.

He had a host of friends, not only in this county, but all over the State, and he was one of the most widely-known of Syracuse politicians.

Mr. Kenyon married Miss Martha Tefft, who survives him. He is also survived by one child, Alma. Both his wife and daughter were with him when he died.

He also leaves one brother, Jacob Kenyon of Baldwinsville.



A special dispatch received at Syracuse late last night from Albany stated that the news of Mr. Kenyon's death came to that city too late to be generally known. A dispatch to L. B. Gleason at the Albany Club, where Mr. Kenyon stayed while in Albany, brought news of the death, and about the club there were many expressions of sorrow. Mr. Kenyon was one of the most popular members of the club.

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## John S. Kenyon

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**The Albany Argus, February 17, 1902, said :**

Col. John S. Kenyon, Secretary of the State Railroad Commission, died in Syracuse last night. He was operated on for appendicitis on Saturday. He never rallied. Col. Kenyon was one of God's noblemen and lighted up the atmosphere about him by his genial smile and perfect good nature. He was at his desk in the Capitol up to Friday, when he went to Syracuse, his home, where the State Railroad Commission was then in session. His nature was gentle, kind, and generous. His friends were legion, and he counted them in every part of the State, and in fact all over the United States. He had served his city, Syracuse, his State, and his country, in public office and on the battlefield. His party he also served faithfully, at one time being Secretary of the Republican State Committee, and Chairman of the Onondaga Republican General Committee. \* \* \*



**The Albany Evening Journal, February 19, 1902, said :**

### **COL. JOHN S. KENYON DEAD.**

The announcement of the death of Col. John S. Kenyon, Secretary of the State Board of Railroad Commissioners, came as a shock to his many friends in this city — and no man in the State service had more. Fri-





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## A Memorial

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day morning he was at his desk in the Capitol, on Saturday he was operated on for appendicitis at his home in Syracuse, and on Sunday he died from the effects of the operation. Few of his friends even knew that he was ill, until a press dispatch from Syracuse Saturday afternoon announced that he had been operated upon and was in a serious condition. On Friday, on his way home to be operated upon, he took chances on missing his train in order to notify the Railroad Commission of the accident on the New York city elevated railroad, and dispatch Inspector Schultze to the scene, to commence an investigation. Col. Kenyon never spared himself when there was work to be done, but he never was too busy to have a kindly word and a smile for those about him. His unfailing good nature won for him a host of friends, whose sympathy will go out to his family in their time of grief. \* \* \*

To any one in distress Col. Kenyon was a certain source of relief. He never discussed his little acts of kindness, but on the contrary, was disposed to apologize for them when they were discovered. Just before he left the office Friday morning, a veteran of the Spanish War came to him for enough money to buy breakfast. The veteran told the colonel a hard luck story; admitted that he had spent his money foolishly, and mostly for drink. As Col. Kenyon handed him the money he



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## John S. Kenyon

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said: "Go and get a good breakfast," and turning to a friend when the soldier had gone, said: "Poor fellow, he has had lots of hard luck. I cannot refuse an old soldier above every one else."



**The Syracuse Post-Standard, Wednesday, February 19, 1902,  
said:**

With impressive ceremonies the body of the late John S. Kenyon, Secretary of the State Board of Railroad Commissioners, who died at his home in this city on Sunday evening, will be laid at rest this afternoon in Oakwood Cemetery. Prominent State legislators and officers will attend the funeral, which will be marked both by military and Masonic rites.

Beginning at 11 o'clock this morning the remains will lie in state until 12:30 at the family home in "The Kenyon," after which they will be taken to St. Paul's Episcopal Church, from which the funeral will be conducted. At the church the body will lie in state from 12:45 until 2 o'clock, with a guard from Root Post, G. A. R., of which Col. Kenyon was a member. His cap and sword will repose upon the casket, which is to be draped with the Stars and Stripes.

The complete list of honorary bearers is as follows:  
Railroad Commissioners George W. Dunn, Ashley W.





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Cole, and Frank M. Baker; L. B. Gleason, Assistant Clerk of the Senate; Francis Hendricks, Superintendent of Insurance; Frank H. Hiscock, Justice of the Supreme Court; State Senator Horace White; James M. Gilbert, of the State Insurance Department; Mayor Jay B. Kline; former Mayors Jacob Amos and William Cowie, and Attorney John L. King. From the Ironclad Republican Club, the honorary bearers will be Dr. W. C. Du Bois, Frank Z. Wilcox, William L. Barnum, and John C. Wurzburger. The active bearers will be members of the Root Post, G. A. R.



### A SPECIAL CAR FROM ALBANY.

A special car, bearing the State officials and Albany friends of the deceased, will leave Albany this morning, arriving in Syracuse this noon. Rev. Dr. H. R. Lockwood, rector of St. Paul's, will officiate at the funeral. The Park Central Presbyterian Church quartet will sing a number of selections. Among these will be three favorite hymns of Col. Kenyon, namely, "Nearer My God to Thee," "O Paradise," and "Onward, Christian Soldiers."

At Oakwood Cemetery services will be conducted under Masonic auspices and the body placed in the vault, from which it will later be transferred to the family plot.

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## John S. Kenyon

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### MESSAGES OF CONDOLENCE.

Letters and telegrams of condolence have been received by the family from the following: John W. Dwight of New York, Senator Edgar T. Brackett of Saratoga, Excise Commissioner P. W. Cullinan of Oswego, Frederick B. Stone of Roselle, N. J., Superintendent of Public Instruction Charles R. Skinner, State Railroad Commissioner Ashley W. Cole of Brooklyn, George C. Van Tuyl, Jr., of Albany, Superintendent H. H. Bender of Albany, R. L. Fox of New York, William B. Woodruff of Delhi, Judge C. T. Saxton of Clyde, H. J. Coggeshall of Waterville, George E. Green of Binghamton, Willis G. Merriman of Albany, H. B. Whitbeck of Albany, Jacob A. Cantor, President of the Borough of Manhattan, Charles A. Ball of New York, John T. Mott of Oswego, James D. Henderson of Oswego, D. S. Potter of Glens Falls, Granville W. Harrison of Brooklyn, E. C. McEntee, Assistant Secretary of the State Railroad Commission of Albany, Henry W. Garfield, James B. Lyon, Walter B. Conley, and Walter Melius, all of Albany; Pirie McDonald of New York, George W. Aldridge of Rochester, and Senator John Ford of New York.









# Proceedings of the Senate.

STATE OF NEW YORK:

IN SENATE,

*February 17, 1902.*

Mr. WHITE moved that the President appoint a committee of five to take suitable action upon the death of John S. Kenyon.

The President put the question whether the Senate would agree to said motion, and it was decided in the affirmative.

The President appointed as such committee, Messrs. White, Higgins, Malby, Grady, and Ahearn.

Mr. WHITE moved that out of respect to the memory of the late John S. Kenyon the Senate do now adjourn.

The President put the question whether the Senate would agree to said motion, and it was decided in the affirmative.

Whereupon the Senate adjourned.





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## A Memorial

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IN SENATE,

*February 18, 1902.*

Mr. WHITE from the special committee presented the following memorial:

The announcement of the death of John S. Kenyon at his home in Syracuse conveys a peculiar shock to the many men who counted themselves among his friends, or belonged to the still wider circle that knew him in the sphere of public activity. It has been his happy fortune to attach himself to many hearts by the attractive features of his character, as well as to impress himself on the regard of a far greater number by the force and intelligence which animated his life in the world of affairs.

To the Senate of the State of New York Mr. Kenyon stood for many years in intimate relations. Here, if anywhere, he was known, respected, beloved; and it is most fitting that a word of appreciation shall be spoken here.

John S. Kenyon was born in Schoharie county the 5th of May, 1843. At the age of 18 he enlisted in the Van Alen, afterward the Third New York, Cavalry, and served in the Civil War until 1863, when he was mustered out with honor, having risen to the rank of second lieutenant. After some years spent in busi-

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ness he entered politics, where he achieved a prompt and signal distinction. As Assistant Clerk of the Assembly and afterward of the Senate, Reading Clerk of the House of Representatives at Washington, and then Clerk of this Body for the greater part of a period extending from 1888 to 1898, he exhibited in a rare degree those qualities which a position so difficult requires. May we not say that in the history of the State Senate he has had few peers and no superiors? In his relation to State politics, Mr. Kenyon occupied a field where still different qualities were demanded. There, too, he displayed ability, energy, and an honorable devotion to public interests. He was not tinctured with the sentiment that a zealous activity in politics carries a reproach. He never would have been able to understand the heresy that the best way to serve one's country is to abstain from all connection with its political affairs. John S. Kenyon was of the school of those who believe in a thorough, robust devotion to the duties of citizenship. He did not disdain the word "partisan," but no one could have truly called him the mere partisan.

Such was the man we knew; a good soldier, who in boyhood took his place in the noble host that rushed to the battlefield in defense of the old flag; a good citizen, active, untiring in the public service; a good friend, warm-hearted, loyal, companionable. Many





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hearts are touched by his too early withdrawal from the scenes of earth; and many, including the members of the State Senate, desire to give utterance to their respect and affection, and to offer their sympathy to those who were nearest him and who suffer in his departure from life no common bereavement.



Mr. WHITE moved the adoption of the memorial and that a copy of the same properly engrossed be sent to the family of the deceased.

Mr. GRADY, speaking upon the adoption of the memorial, said:

Mr. PRESIDENT.—I, at this moment, can only say that the minority heartily join in paying any tribute of respect to the memory of John S. Kenyon. As is stated in the memorial, the announcement of his death comes to us with all the shock of the suddenness of his taking off, and while we realize the separation we have hardly had time to measure the loss, much less time in which to compose ourselves for a suitable expression of our grief.

It was my privilege to meet Mr. Kenyon when I began my public career at the Capitol twenty-five years ago. He was the same kindly, generous, self-sacrific-



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## John S. Kenyon

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ing, devoted public servant and personal friend as was known to those who made his acquaintance later on. I need not say that to me personally the taking off of a friend—one who, as in the case of Mr. Kenyon, it was my privilege to summer and winter with for a quarter of a century—means the snapping of one of the links which bind men to life and its experiences. But this is not the place nor do I conceive this to be the time for the expression of my personal feelings. We are here to sincerely mourn the loss of a useful citizen—useful in his appreciation of the duties of citizenship, useful in his willingness to discharge to the full his share of those responsibilities, useful in his willingness to point out to the less experienced the way in which they may be of advantage to the State and of honor and credit to themselves. We are here, now that life is rounded out and brought to an end so far as earth is concerned, to bear testimony to our gratitude to one who has served the State well, not only in the official walks of the public servant in and about this Capitol, but one who in the early years of a budding manhood answered his country's call and undertook the risks and dangers of a great civil conflict. The State is rich in its citizenship; it has sons willing to make any sacrifice which may be required to maintain





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its dignity and position in the Nation, but the State to-day has no citizen, the State to-day has no public servant who at the end of his career with more of justice could have said, "I have discharged my duty to my country," more truly than could John S. Kenyon at the time of his death. He has left an example—an example that is forced upon us all too frequently now by the death which we are obliged to officially recognize. He was the robust partisan, but, as was stated in the memorial, no man could tell his politics in his official relation. To the Democrat or to the Republican he was the courteous, kindly, cheerful, pains-taking friend and efficient help.

I regret the necessity that I am under to-day of bearing in this very imperfect way my testimony to the great loss which has come to the State and come to us, to the friends and neighbors, and particularly to the relatives of the late John S. Kenyon.

The President put the question whether the Senate would agree to said motion of Mr. White, and it was decided in the affirmative.

Mr. WHITE moved that a committee of five be appointed by the President to attend the funeral of Mr. Kenyon.

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## John S. Kenyon

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The President put the question whether the Senate would agree to said motion, and it was decided in the affirmative.

The President appointed as such committee, Messrs. White, Malby, Stewart, Grady, and Ahearn.



### BOARD OF RAILROAD COMMISSIONERS,

ALBANY, *February 25, 1902.*

Inasmuch as the inscrutable will of Divine Providence has, in an unlooked-for moment, deprived this Board of the services and companionship of John S. Kenyon, the Secretary of this Commission:

We desire to place on record a testimonial of our regard for his many excellent qualities of head and heart, and of his efficiency and capacity as a citizen, a soldier, and a civil officer. It had been our privilege and pleasure to know him for many years prior to his service with this Commission. Early in life he entered the army of the Union, and through his fidelity to duty and his personal courage earned promotion as well as the coveted Medal of Honor for Bravery in Battle; afterward he came to serve the State of New York in various capacities, all of which required close industrial application and a large degree of intelligence





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and ripe experience in public affairs. His final labors were rendered to this Commission during the past four years, and we found him at all times attentive to his obligations of service; intelligent and painstaking both as to details and results — and with a high appreciation of that responsibility to the people which should animate every public servant. In all of these relations he was characterized by a geniality and courtliness of bearing and conduct which tended to facilitate the public business, and made both personal and official contact with him more than ordinarily agreeable.

We profoundly regret his passing away, and especially the suddenness of it, and we tender to his widow and family the expression of our tenderest sympathy in their great affliction.

ASHLEY W. COLE,  
FRANK M. BAKER,  
GEORGE W. DUNN,  
*Commissioners.*



### THE FUNERAL SERVICES.

St. Paul's Church was the scene of impressive and solemn services this afternoon on the occasion of the funeral of John S. Kenyon, Secretary of the State Railroad Commission. The coffin rested at the foot of the main aisle of the church, surrounded by a profu-



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## John S. Kenyon

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sion of floral tributes, probably the most elaborate ever seen in this city. The coffin was draped with the Stars and Stripes, and resting upon the lid were the cap worn and the sword carried by Lieutenant Kenyon during the Civil War. At the head and foot stood a guard of honor from Root Post, G. A. R.

Before the services the remains were viewed by friends, first at the home in The Kenyon in South Warren street and later at the church.

At 12:30 prayer was offered at the house by the Rev. H. R. Lockwood, S. T. D., rector of St. Paul's, after which the remains were taken to St. Paul's Church, where they lay in state until 2:15 o'clock.

The center seats of the church were reserved for the mourners and members of the family, representatives of the State Legislature, and others from out of town. In the front row sat the active bearers, members of Root Post. The honorary bearers occupying the next seats were A. W. Cole, F. M. Baker, J. B. Lyon, L. B. Gleason, Francis Hendricks, Justice F. H. Hiscock, Senator Horace White, J. M. Gilbert, Mayor Jay B. Kline, Jacob Amos, William Cowie, John L. King, Dr. W. C. DuBois, Frank Z. Wilcox, W. L. Barnum, and John C. Wurzbarger.

Then came the representatives from the State Senate and the Assembly, the members of the Grand Army of





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the Republic, of the Republican Club, and of other organizations, and personal friends. Long before the hour of the service the church was filled.

It was 2:30 when the services began, conducted by the Rev. H. R. Lockwood. The quartet of the Park Presbyterian Church sang the favorite hymns of Mr. Kenyon, "Nearer My God to Thee," "Onward Christian Soldier," and "O, Paradise," and two anthems.

At the close of the services at the church the remains were taken to Oakwood. On arrival at Oakwood chapel there were brief committal services, after which the remains were temporarily placed in the vault.



### BY SPECIAL FROM ALBANY.

The delegation from Albany, including members of the State Railroad Commission, its employees, Senators, Members of Assembly, and attaches came on a special train leaving Albany at 8 A. M. It consisted of a coach and a Pullman car and arrived here at 12:10 P. M. In the party were:

Railroad Commissioners Ashley W. Cole and Frank M. Baker; Assistant Secretary E. C. McEntee, Superintendent of Grade Crossings A. H. Sutermeister,

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## John S. Kenyon

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Steam Railroad Inspector J. M. Schultz, Electrical Inspector C. R. Barnes, Major H. K. Bird, the Governor's military secretary and personal representative at the funeral; Senators Horace White, George R. Malby, of Ogdensburg; E. C. Stewart, of Ithaca; Minority Leader Thomas F. Grady, of New York, and John F. Ahearn, of New York; Assistant Senate Clerk L. B. Gleason, Journal Clerk E. A. Fay, Sergeant-at-Arms C. R. Hotaling, Chief Messenger H. B. Whitbeck, Assemblymen Cadin, Hammond, Traub and Williams, of Onondaga county; Col. Archie E. Baxter, of Elmira, Clerk of the Assembly; Assistant Clerk Ray B. Smith, City Engineer Walter Melius, of Albany; ex-Commissioner of Public Safety Fred C. Ham, State Printer J. B. Lyon (these three representing the Albany Club); Superintendent of Public Buildings H. H. Bender, Commissioner of Labor John McMackin; Cashier John T. Wilkins, of the State Insurance Department; William B. Woodruff, of Delhi; ex-Assistant Clerk of the Senate Charles A. Ball, Senate employees William Mosely and J. O. Commeraw, ex-Senator H. J. Coggeshall, of Waterville; Deputy State Treasurer Barnet H. Davis, and Deputy Attorney-General Richard J. Shanahan.

Others present were Judge Charles T. Saxton, of the Court of Claims, and Thomas Wheeler, of Utica.





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### THE FLORAL PIECES.

Among the floral pieces were these:

A beautiful wreath of violets, lilies, and roses, from Governor Odell; a broken column, five feet in height, composed entirely of violets, standing upon a base of Easter lilies from the State Senators; large casket bouquet, Mr. and Mrs. Avery; pillow of white hyacinths, roses, maidenhair fern, and violets from the Loyal Legion of this city; a wreath of violets, lilies of the valley, roses, etc., from the Railroad Commissioners of the State of New York; an ivy wreath from the members of the Albany Club; a cavalry sabre of roses, hyacinths, violets, with the hilt of immortelles, and a sheaf of wheat, from the survivors of the Third New York cavalry; a pall of roses, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Hogan; a wreath, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Schwarz; a large cross, composed of tulips, hyacinths, and roses, from legislative friends at Albany, namely, J. S. Whipple, E. R. Ford, H. H. Bender, A. E. Baxter, L. B. Gleason, Ray B. Smith, L. G. DeCant, H. B. Whitbeck, R. L. Fox, and W. M. Bennet.

A large casket pall, composed of white carnations and maidenhair ferns, from George E. Green, of Binghamton; a bouquet of calla lilies, Mrs. Alonzo W. Haight; bouquet, Mr. T. C. Pratt; a large wreath composed of



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## John S. Kenyon

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ivy, laurel, and palm leaves, with violets, from personal friends in this city, namely, Francis Hendricks, John L. King, Jacob Amos, J. W. Smith, H. W. Plumb, De Forest Settle, George G. Cotton, Thomas Merriam, George S. Leonard, G. Todd Gregory, John Moore, Wing R. Smith, W. Judson Smith, William Cowie, Charles H. Mowry, James Holland Davis, Fred J. Baker, W. B. Bishop, Edward Kent, James M. Gilbert, and Charles C. Cole; a large casket bouquet from the Fourteenth Ward Ironclad Republican Club.



### JOHN S. KENYON.

By HUGH HASTINGS.

John S. Kenyon, Secretary of the State Railroad Commission, who died at his home, Syracuse, N. Y., on Sunday night, February 16, 1902, from heart failure following an operation for appendicitis, was descended from sturdy American stock. Born in Schoharie county, May 5, 1843, his boyhood days were passed there. The outbreak of the Civil War thwarted his ambition. He aspired to become a lawyer; instead he became a soldier. Four days after the battle of Bull Run, James H. Van Alen obtained authority from the War Department to recruit a regiment of





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cavalry. Young Kenyon, always a lover of horses, decided to join. His father opposed his enlisting, but this obstacle was overcome in characteristic boyish fashion: he ran away and joined the Onondaga cavalry. His troop was attached to Van Alen's regiment which is known as the Third New York Volunteer Cavalry. From private to corporal, to sergeant, and orderly sergeant, young Kenyon advanced until he secured his commission as second lieutenant. His command saw much service, active and continuous. In the Shenandoah valley it had numerous brushes with the Ashbys—the two brothers who early in the war carried as much terror to Union troops in that section of the country as Mosby created along the line of the old Orange and Alexandria railroad. Both Ashbys were killed by Union troops, Confederate testimony to the contrary notwithstanding, and the sword of Turner Ashby is now one of the war relics to be seen in the State Capitol at Albany, a trophy captured by this same Third cavalry. From the Shenandoah the regiment was transferred in April, 1862, to North Carolina. Here it remained on outpost and scouting duty till November, 1863. It was splendidly officered. None of our cavalry regiments, and all from New York were beyond criticism, better. The Confederates from the beginning had the advantage with this arm of the service.

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## John S. Kenyon

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The best cavalry officers in the United States army, with a few exceptions, at the outset of the war, were Southerners. They naturally returned to native allegiance. War once declared the policy of the two armies was radically different. Southern generals believed in fighting cavalry in columns of masses. Northern generals, up to the time Hooker assumed command, employed the cavalry, merely as a detached force, to be used in scouting, guarding the flanks of the army, and in protecting trains. Kelly's Ford, Brandy Station, and Gettysburg awakened the North to the possibilities of cavalry operating as a solid mass and shattered a supercilious delusion of the South as to the superiority of butternut horsemen.

For the North Carolina district, New York State furnished three regiments — representing each branch of the service, cavalry, artillery, and infantry. It is a fact worthy of note that the colonels commanding these three regiments were promoted to be brigadier-generals, Van Alen, of the Third cavalry; Ledlie, of the Third artillery, and Claassen, of the One Hundred and Thirty-second infantry.

In action, near Trenton Bridge, North Carolina, May 15, 1862, young Kenyon, who had just passed his nineteenth birthday, performed an act of heroism which brought to him the much-coveted honor to the soldier,





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the Congressional medal issued only for conspicuous valor outside the line of duty. The two troops of his command had charged three times and as often had been forced back under the galling fire of the enemy, a strong force of which had sought the protecting cover of the stout walls of a church. When the final order to retire was given, one of the troopers was shot and fell from his horse. The commanding officer called for volunteers. Instantly Kenyon responded. He quickly turned his horse, galloped back under a steady fire to the spot where his wounded comrade lay, dismounted, lifted the limp body to the saddle, then guiding the animal with one hand and steadying his helpless friend with the other, he deliberately ran along, his body acting as a shield, with the bullets whistling around him until he rejoined his command. His bravery on the field was only equalled by his modesty after his sword was sheathed. His most intimate friends of years never heard him allude to this episode. But his old companions in arms who were conversant with all the facts were unwilling that an act of such conspicuous bravery should go unrewarded.

After the war he transferred his residence from Schoharie to Onondaga county and settled at Baldwinsville, where with his father, Charles Grosvenor Kenyon, he established paper mills. When he joined the Republi-



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## John S. Kenyon

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can party, in 1875, he at once became a factor in the politics of his section of the State. Clearheaded, unrelenting in his dislikes, and as devoted in his friendships his ability as an adviser was recognized by the political leaders who constantly consulted him on questions affecting the party. It was to his efforts more than to any other one man, and for the reason above all others, that he was an old soldier, that General Grant, in 1880, broke his itinerary, during the Garfield-Hancock campaign, and delivered his memorable speech, at Syracuse, the last time the great captain ever appeared in Onondaga county.

A man of Mr. Kenyon's force of character, sagacity, and integrity invariably commands the respect of his fellow citizens and the recognition of party leaders, and can always be relied upon to fill conscientiously any position of trust that may be awarded him. Thus his public life was similar to his military life—a series of promotions with the proud distinction that each successive position reflected greater credit upon the man and shed brighter luster upon the State. Whether as a subordinate clerk of the Legislature, or as reading clerk of the House of Representatives; or carrying the weightier responsibilities of clerk of the State Senate, or the graver cares of Secretary of the State Board of Railroad Commissioners, the judgment of all who came





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## A Memorial

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in contact with him was unchanged and uniform, his work was always faithfully and honestly performed and for the best interests of the people and of the State.

He was a charter member of Root Post, G. A. R., of Syracuse, a companion of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion, and of the Medal of Honor Society. He married the daughter of a prominent merchant of Syracuse, Miss Martha Tefft, who, with their one daughter, Alma, survive him.



**Glens Falls Daily Times, February 19, 1902.**

### **COLONEL JOHN S. KENYON.**

With the passing of the spirit of Colonel John S. Kenyon from this world to a higher realm, virtue, loyalty, and exemplary manhood has unquestionably received its reward.

The great panorama of life never has presented upon the curtains of daily review the features of a man which could stand more thorough scrutiny from the standpoint of citizenship.

Kind, sympathetic, reliable as a friend, with the tenderness of a woman, there has been no closing chapter of "life's fitful work" reviewed by obituary writers of this State in years where words fail so completely to

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## John S. Kenyon

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satisfy either writer or reader as in the case of the subject of this sketch.

While others entered into endless scramble for position and fortune, this exemplary citizen contented himself in lending invaluable aid, remaining in modest retirement himself.

His greatness was in assisting others to become great.

Some men excel in one line of work or thought, and some in another. Here was a man who excelled in all things. His devotion to party was a subject of universal comment. Indefatigable and resourceful as local, State, or National campaigner, he had great opportunity to impress the value of his services upon men in position to help him. Did he profit by this favorable situation? That was not a characteristic of the man. Quiet, retiring, content, he never appeared to realize these opportunities for personal advancement, so absorbed was he in the unending strife for principles and party.

In season and out, during darkest days of Democratic ascendancy and in the glowing midday sun of Republican supremacy there never appeared a cloud upon the pleasant visage of the colonel.

When he entered Republican headquarters, the Senate chamber, Railroad Commissioners' offices, or





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## A Memorial

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alighted from a train in the overcast station at Syracuse, it was like the passing of obscurity and dawning of clear, cheerful day.

Expressions that cold, placid readers would use or approve in paying tributes to the dead have no meaning in describing the worth of this noble character, whose epitaph is engrossed to-day with indelible words of love on the heart of every man, woman, and child who came frequently in contact with him.

A good man never dies; the spirit may appear before its Maker and the body crumble and return to the dust from whence it came, but the love and reverence of all who knew Colonel John S. Kenyon will enshrine his memory while the everlasting hills endure.

To enumerate the positions of responsibility and confidence he had filled would simply respond to a roll-call of long years in public service.

No word of adverse criticism or censure has ever escaped the lips of fair critic in describing the actions, official or private, of the departed. A sad, sympathetic, sincerely afflicted concourse of mourners will follow the mortal remains of their late companion to the final resting place. In all the number there will not be one, suffering grief silently or with outward evidence, whose heart can ache more painfully than his would for them, if conditions were reversed.



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## John S. Kenyon

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There is nothing more difficult to understand than the dispensation of a Providence which robs one at an unseasonable hour of such companionship as this, unless it be the realization of most extreme Scriptural teachings in an everlasting abode where every hour is a joy and the days have no ending.



**Syracuse Sunday Herald, Sunday, February 23, 1902.**

### **ABOUT JOHN S. KENYON.**

To the Editors of the *Herald*:

The death of John S. Kenyon drew from many men this week expressions of appreciation and estimates of value concerning the genial politician and friend. Some of these expressions, frank and superlative, have come from men not frequently given to unguarded utterance about their fellow men. Not everybody in Syracuse, not every man well up in politics, knew John Kenyon; but everybody knew about him, knew what he stood for, what to expect of him. At the time of our fierce Republican controversy over organization a few years ago, Mr. Kenyon's personality was a favorite target for the archers. He directly represented the elements then in power and he was the actual framer





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of the "rules" so much in dispute and for years so heartily disliked. No wonder that the arrows flew his way. But after it was over as to the bitterest aspects, there was no venom reserved for the good-natured but resolute committee chairman and rulemaker. Many of the men who to this day retain all their aversion to the "organization," and the representative men who are known to manipulate its operations, had come to think without a lingering resentment of the gentle-voiced Kenyon. And why not?

One who knew Mr. Kenyon intimately must have discovered at the time of the controversy over organization in the Republican party that he was moved by a desire for regularity rather than by blind fealty to the people whom his attitude allied him with it. It was the judicial instinct in him that moved him mightily to battle for the "rules." The new system of official voting rendered the nomination of the utmost consequence and Mr. Kenyon was willing to stake his all upon what seemed to him the needed reform in party management. I do not believe that he ever contemplated, as an outcome of the system that he fostered, a complete concentration of authority in an arbitrary group of "leaders," to the absolute suppression of popular preference and the killing of all interest in the primary, except that which the organization itself should

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## John S. Kenyon

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stimulate by its various methods when a bit of enthusiasm should seem to be the proper thing. That Mr. Kenyon was not in recent times wholly satisfied with the workings of our primary system may be very positively asserted. He could see that the new caucus was not growing in popularity. "The people are shy of it," he said last summer to a well-known Marcellus man. "The very thing that we hoped to accomplish is farther and farther away. The primaries are growing smaller. What ails you folk?" While he was not in a very special sense a people's man he knew very well that a party which by any means, open or covert, shuts the door upon a large participation in party affairs, was bound to be brought low in the course of a few canvasses.

Much has been said, and not all in a commendatory tone, about Mr. Kenyon being a "professional politician." Grant that this was true; is it discreditable to him? We must have a few men who are trained for political service, and fortunate is the community or the party whose professional politicians are men of clean personal character, with patriotic impulses, not over-selfish or ambitious for personal power. The parties need such men in every county if party work is to be done effectually. How shall such men be supported? One way would be by a salary drawn from the party





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coffers. Or some powerful member of the party might contribute the salary and own the man. The way we generally do—and under the right conditions this is not wholly a vicious way—is to see that the useful party servant is given a remunerative office in the public service. Who shall say, even in these days of professed sanctity touching the public service, that this practice is bad? Party service is indeed public service when a party is worthily handled, and the faithful man in the party can most easily be the faithful and efficient man in the service of the State. In Mr. Kenyon's case nobody has even complained that the public has not been excellently served under this rule. It depends upon the man, as well as upon the spirit that dominates the party.

The idea of training a class of men for politics is somewhat repulsive to Americans, and it may never, as an avowed policy, be in vogue among us. It savors of class distinctions, which we shall always abhor. It runs counter to the pretty tradition that our very humblest boys may rise to most exalted stations by personal merit, in the course of an unplanned life, and we do not relish the idea of cutting off the approach to eminence by a line of political militia. In England the case is quite different. There all the eminent statesmen of the last century have come up through training. The



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## John S. Kenyon

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exceptions are rare. Take the Balfour family, for example, or the Morleys, or even Mr. Gladstone or Disraeli. All those distinguished careers have started in subordinate clerkships. Not many have dropped like meteors from the sky. In England politics is a science; in the United States it is—who can say what it is? Let us blush and call it a game.

Aside from politics, or perhaps underlying the politician in him, Mr. Kenyon was a man of delightful manners. You never remember to have seen him angry, do you? He was seldom ruffled. And how few words of his on any topic, whether in second or third person, had a sting in them! How splendidly silent he could be! And then he had a way of secretly pleasing people that was very nice in small attentions on all possible occasions. When we see something especially well done, like a public speech, the performance of some public duty, or the achievement of an object of one's cherished desire, we are tempted to write a letter of congratulation; or in the case of defeat or disappointment, we feel like sending a letter of commiseration or encouragement. And then straightway we neglect to do it. John Kenyon was like the rest of us in these respects, except that he generally did it instead of merely intending to do it. Many is the man in this and other counties who has this week looked up such





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a letter, expressing in simple and sincere English, and with that most elegant penmanship, the happiness or the sympathy of the writer over something that has happened in the course of events. These letters will long be cherished as true pictures of the heart of him who has so suddenly gone from his place in affairs to assume an abiding place in memory.

One other aspect of Mr. Kenyon's personality that has been somewhat noticeable was his fondness for a horse. There are others besides Tennyson who have cooly expressed their measure of a man in terms of his relation with the horse. John Kenyon was never in the accepted phrase a horseman. He was not known to interest himself in the feats of the track. He was never seen speeding a horse. Nor was he pleased to be driven about by a coachman either alone or accompanied by friends. He had no fondness for street equipage. I think we must call his the social horse-love. He neither drove for excitement nor altogether for driving's sake. There was always conversation with his driving, and the talk was seldom on the horse. Scenery always got mixed with his driving, and his interest in all the operations of men along through the country that he traversed was keener than you would suppose, if you never went out into the country with him. If you have had that pleasure I need not remind you

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## John S. Kenyon

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that you have a rare delight stored up. But just to remember having seen John Kenyon out for a drive is a pleasure not soon to be exhausted. He was never alone. It was usually a family ride. He sat upon the front seat, and he usually held the reins, but it was always easy for him to face backwards, and you can almost hear the pleasant remarks of this genial, easy-going driver with the members of his family or his guests, and now and then a word to the horse. In country or city, it is always pleasant to come upon this style of riding out. We seldom witness it nowadays. The family carriage is well-nigh extinct. Evolution has done its work, and perhaps the development is real progress. Yet we all grieve a little over the departure of the old style of family driving. Of the lingering remnants of the old past we occasionally see a specimen in this city, and they are decidedly cheering. Mr. Kenyon's was one of the most constant and most representative of all that the times have not driven out of vogue. We shall cherish the sight along with his soft voice, his exquisite politeness, his matchless handwriting, the sunshine of his smile, and many a kindness that never came to general notice and gave color to his outward reputation.

J. T. R.

Elmwood, February 22, 1902.





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**Syracuse Post-Standard, February 23, 1902.**

### **AN APTITUDE FOR POLITICS.**

The death of John S. Kenyon, which occurred early last week, removed from Syracuse a widely-known and popular citizen and from the State a man prominent in political and business circles. It has been a long time since the death of any Syracuse man has called out such expressions of sympathy and regret and such tributes to his memory as have poured in on the afflicted family as soon as the news of his sudden demise was known in the city and throughout the State.

Mr. Kenyon had a natural aptitude for politics. In speaking of this yesterday, James M. Gilbert, Deputy State Superintendent of Insurance, a close personal friend of Mr. Kenyon, said:

"In the early seventies Mr. Kenyon had been a Democrat in association with what was afterward the anti-Tilden wing of the party. He left the Democratic party when Tilden became its State leader and was thereafter an active Republican. He was appointed assistant clerk of the Assembly in 1878. His clerical ability and faculty for organization was at once manifest and during his incumbency of the office he radically changed the methods of work in the clerk's desk. His selection as assistant clerk of the Senate was followed by his



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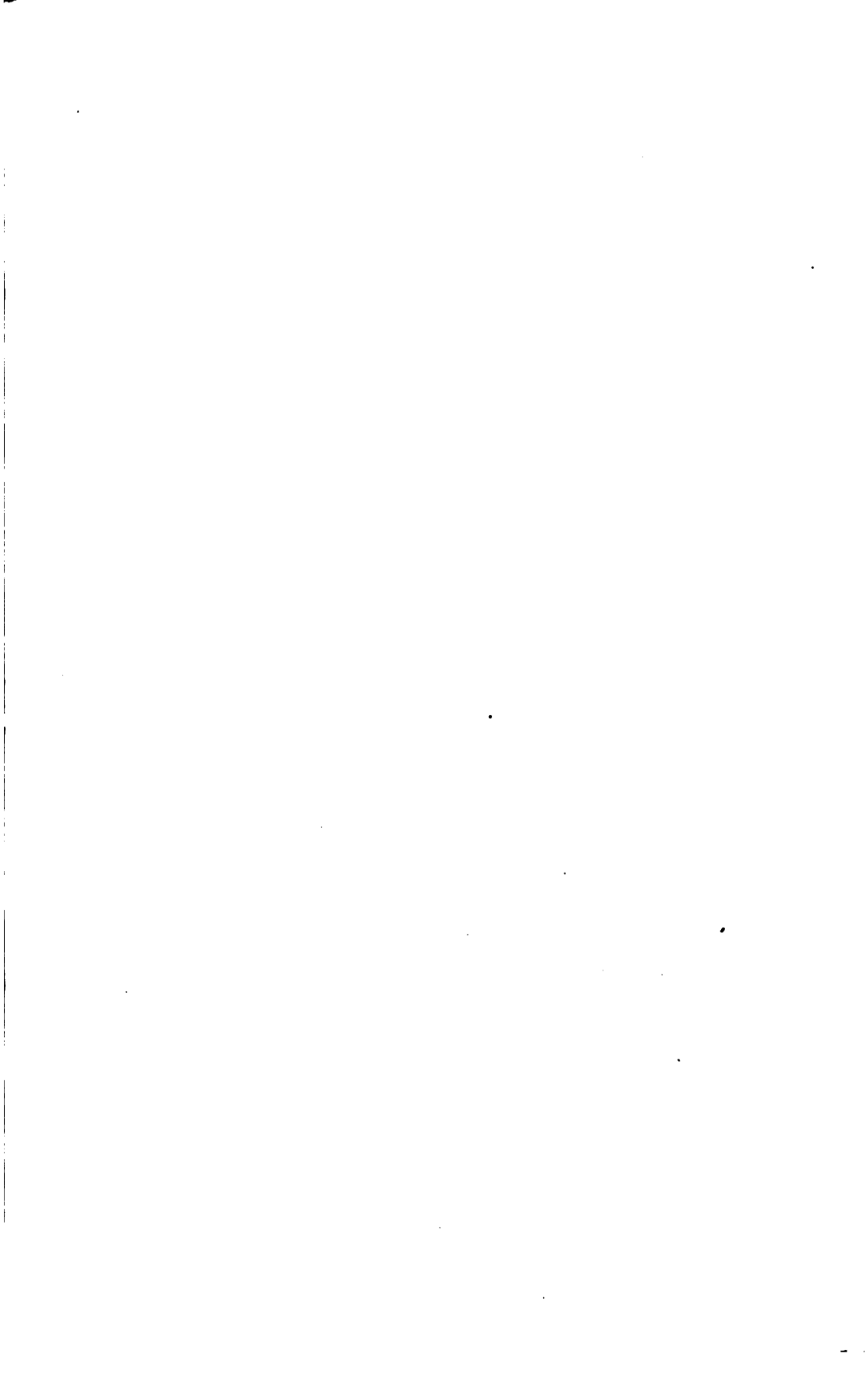
## John S. Kenyon

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election as clerk of that body, and for a long term of years he conducted the affairs of the office with such ability that his popularity on both sides of the house was very great.

“He was more than a clerk. He was the intimate associate of the Senators, and among Republican Senators, one of their most valued advisers upon questions of party policy and action. In emergencies he acted with great promptness and sagacity. Mr. Kenyon coupled with his executive ability a marked capacity for hard work, which was put to the severest tests in the many campaigns which he managed for the Republican county and State campaigns. He was altogether the most popular of the officials at the State Capitol with all classes of State officials. He was a man of the most pronounced opinions on all questions, and evinced at times the strongest prejudices, and yet at heart was of a kindly and sunny disposition, which made him a most congenial companion and delightful friend. I have never known a man who has been placed in so many difficult positions which required partisan action of whom it may as truly be said, as of Mr. Kenyon, that he had no enemies.





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## A Memorial

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### AT HIS BEST IN HOME LIFE.

Mr. Kenyon was at his best in his home circle and among his intimate friends. It was there that the kindness of his nature and the love of making those dear to him happy was best evidenced. Always thoughtful and genial, it was his delight to make others happy. His interest in the details of home life and the small domestic happenings, usually ignored in the life of a man of affairs whose duty was so largely of a public character, were a source of keen pleasure to Mr. Kenyon, and his happy disposition, rising above the petty annoyances of life, always enabled him to look on the bright side of everything.

The tributes paid to the memory of Mr. Kenyon by his close friends and associates, all tell of his worth as a man, a citizen, a husband, and a father. A striking tribute to the memory of Mr. Kenyon was paid by A. B. Colvin, editor-in-chief and owner of *The Glens Falls Daily Times* and former State Treasurer. In a letter to the family he tells of his deep sorrow at the news of the death of Mr. Kenyon, and says that for years he has not taken up his pen in an editorial capacity, but the death of his friend sent him to his desk, and to express in print a part his grief. In the editorial thus inspired, Mr. Colvin says: "His greatness was to assist others to become great."

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## John S. Kenyon

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In that sentence Mr. Colvin summed up Mr. Kenyon's character. He was retiring by nature, and the extent of his intimate acquaintance with men prominent in professional and political life was realized by few, until his sudden demise brought out expressions of grief from many whose names are household words throughout the State.

Mr. Kenyon ever had a hand outstretched to aid a fellow being, whether it was with money or to attain some place in business or professional life. He was ever ready to give a lift and seldom was a request made to him in vain.

Modest and retiring by nature, he exerted a wonderful influence among his business and political associates, and his judgment was relied upon by prominent men, and his integrity was never questioned.



**The following resolutions and memorials were adopted by the various organizations of which Mr. Kenyon was a member:**

**CITIZENS' CLUB, SYRACUSE, N. Y.**

*Whereas*, The Citizens' Club has lost an honored member by the death of Mr. John S. Kenyon, as an expression of our high regard for his memory be it

*Resolved*, That by the death of Mr. Kenyon, in the prime of his useful life, we have lost one of our best loved companions and friends, a genial, kindly, and





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## A Memorial

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courteous gentleman, whose presence was always a welcome addition to Club circles.

*Resolved*, That this tribute be entered upon the records of the Club, and a copy be transmitted to the family of the deceased with an expression of our sincerest sympathy.

W. H. HORTON,  
*Secretary.*

Citizens' Club, February, 1902.



**ROOT POST, No. 151, G. A. R.**

SYRACUSE, N. Y., *February 27, 1902.*

At a regular Encampment of Root Post No. 151, Department of New York, Grand Army of the Republic, held at Post rooms, February 27, 1902, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

*Whereas*, The Supreme Commander of the Universe has in His infinite wisdom removed from his sphere of usefulness upon earth our beloved Comrade, John S. Kenyon; therefore be it

*Resolved*, By the comrades of Root Post, No. 151, Department of New York, Grand Army of the Republic, that while we bow in humble submission to the order of the Great Commander of us all, we deem it fitting at this time to express our sense of the great loss we have sustained in the death of our comrade.



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## John S. Kenyon

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*Resolved*, That the career of John S. Kenyon was like that of hundreds of the boys in blue in the history of the State and Nation. Entering the military service in the Third New York Cavalry Volunteers as a private soldier, winning merited promotion by heroic conduct on the battle field and a medal of honor awarded by Congress, and being mustered out with the rank of Second Lieutenant when the last armed foe of our country had laid down his arms. He was brave, daring, and heroic, a faithful friend and true comrade, a valued member of our Post, always kind and the friend of the friendless; with an open hand to the needy comrade; with him fraternity meant something; no other epitaph is required.

*Resolved*, That the comrades of Root Post in this sad bereavement learn anew the lesson of mortality and the better be prepared to respond more readily to the touch of human infirmities and sorrow, forgetting man's frailties and emulating his virtues.

*Resolved*, That these resolutions be spread upon the records of this Post and given the press for publication, and a copy thereof be sent to the family of our comrade as a tribute of our love and regard for him as a brave and patriotic defender of the Union.

C. A. WEAVER,

H. L. RUSS,

J. W. WICKES,

*Committee.*





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## **A Memorial**

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### **LOYAL LEGION.**

*SYRACUSE, February 18, 1902.*

It is again the sad duty of the Syracuse members of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion to record the death of one of our members, Lieutenant John S. Kenyon.

He was a good and valiant soldier, a true friend, a genial companion, and an active and loyal citizen. We, his friends and comrades-in-arms, assembled, deeply mourn his loss and extend our deepest sympathy to his bereaved family.

C. S. TRACY,  
*Secretary.*

Military Order of the Loyal Legion.



### **ONEIDA REPUBLICAN BATTERY, INDEPENDENT LIGHT ARTILLERY.**

*ONEIDA, February 19, 1902.*

Pursuant to a resolution unanimously adopted and the authority conferred upon the committee, the committee would, in behalf of the officers and members of the Oneida Republican Battery, Independent Light Artillery, respectfully submit the following memorial:

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## John S. Kenyon

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Col. John S. Kenyon, of whose untimely demise we have learned with sorrow, was accounted as one of the most loyal friends of this organization; one to whom our city was indebted for the incalculable aid rendered in securing the enactment of the legislative measure making of the village of Oneida, a city, and who impressed himself on our regard by the force and intelligence that ever animated his life in the affairs of men. As a man, a soldier, a citizen, a public servant, we regarded him as exemplary; robust, conscientious, unassuming, respected, and beloved. In his death the Republican party of the State of New York suffers materially, and we in common with others are sensitive to the loss sustained.

The committee would respectfully suggest that this expression of sentiment be officially endorsed and be forwarded through the proper channels to the widow and family of the deceased as a further tribute of respect to his memory.

ELBERT R. NILES, Lieut.,  
JAMES A. CRUTHERS,  
H. D. BURKHART,

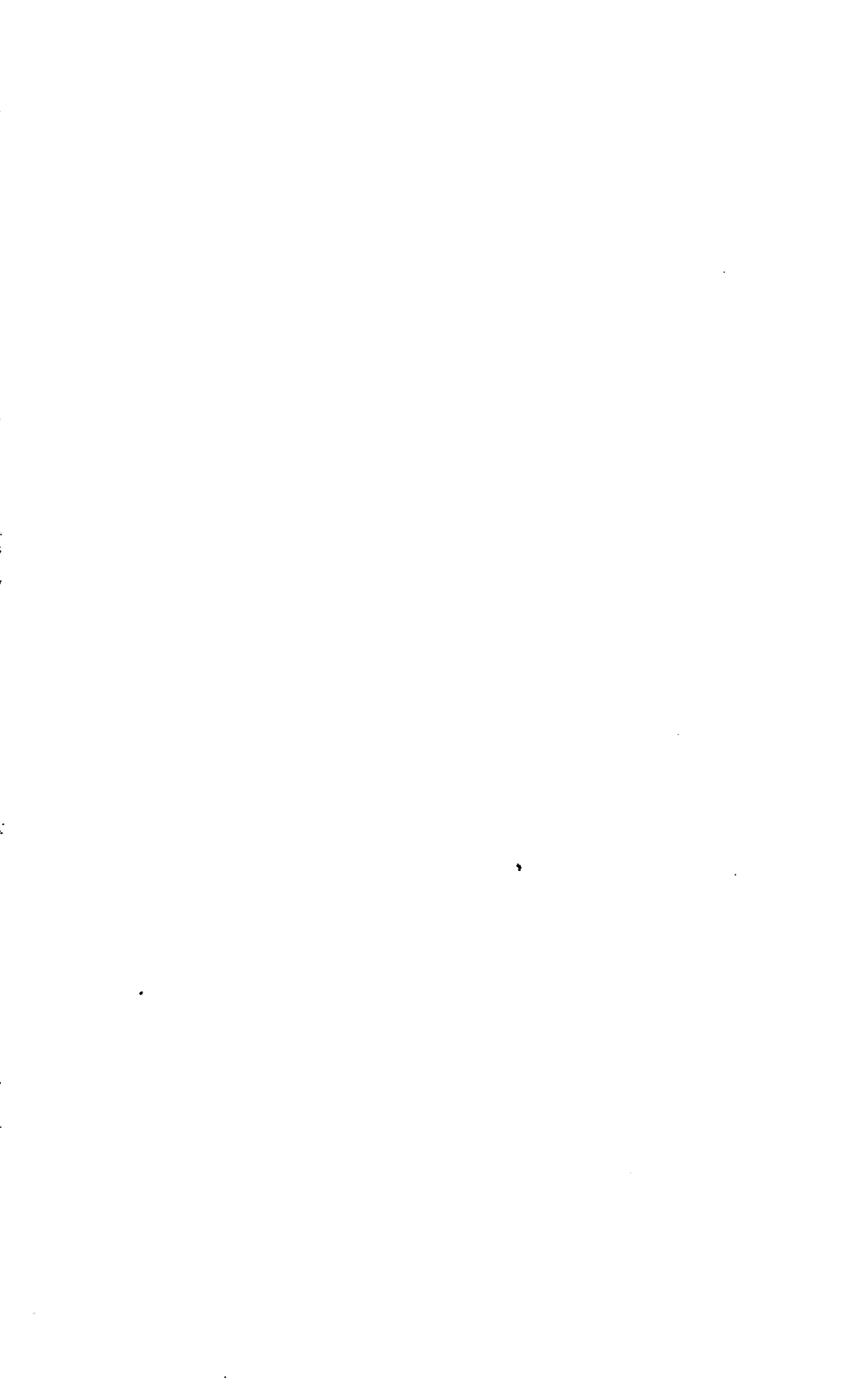
*Committee.*

Headquarters.

Approved and respectfully forwarded,

M. CAVANA, *Captain*, Commanding the Battery.

TO MRS. JOHN S. KENYON AND FAMILY, *Syracuse,*  
*N. Y.*





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## A Memorial

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Letters and telegrams of sympathy and regret were received by the family by the score, and the grief and regard expressed in them are eloquent tributes to Mr. Kenyon's memory. Among such telegrams forwarded to Mrs. Kenyon from men of prominence are the following:

ALBANY, N. Y., *February* 18, 1902.

Mrs. JOHN S. KENYON, Syracuse, N. Y.:

Accept my sincere sympathy in your great affliction. From long association I had learned to highly esteem your husband and feel his death as the loss of a personal friend.

B. B. ODELL, JR.



WASHINGTON, D. C., *February*, 19, 1902.

Mrs. JOHN S. KENYON, Syracuse, N. Y.:

I have just learned of the death of your esteemed husband. It is a great loss, not only to you but to the State. I extend my heartfelt sympathy.

T. C. PLATT.



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## John S. Kenyon

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ALBANY, N. Y., *February 17, 1902.*

Mrs. JOHN S. KENYON, No. 601 Warren St., Syracuse,  
N. Y.:

I beg you to believe that in your sad bereavement,  
you have my warmest sympathy.

EDGAR T. BRACKETT.



NEW YORK, *February 17, 1902.*

Mrs. JOHN S. KENYON, Syracuse, N. Y.:

Have just learned with deepest regret of the unexpected decease of my dear and highly esteemed friend, your loving husband. He was a genial companion, a generous, true, and loyal friend, a strong, manly man whose courage, honor, and integrity were never questioned. In truth, no one knew him but to love him, none named him but to praise. Please accept for yourself, and all the bereaved ones, assurance of my tenderest and sincerest sympathy and best wishes, in which heartfelt sentiment almost innumerable friends of your late husband, who like myself, appreciating his demise as a personal affliction, will most sincerely unite.

GEO. E. GREEN.





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## A Memorial

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WASHINGTON, D. C., *February 19, 1902.*

Mrs. JOHN S. KENYON, Syracuse, N. Y.:

I extend to you and your family my most profound sympathy. Your husband was my friend for a quarter of a century. I had the highest regard for him both as a man and an officer.

CHAUNCEY M. DEPEW.



CLYDE, N. Y., *February 17, 1902.*

Mrs. J. S. KENYON, "The Kenyon," Syracuse, N. Y.:

I am greatly shocked and grieved to hear of John's death. You have my profound sympathy.

C. T. SAXTON.



NEW YORK, *February 17, 1902.*

Mrs. JOHN S. KENYON, Syracuse, N. Y.:

I was Senator two years while Mr. Kenyon was clerk; our friendship was never broken, but grew warmer as time went on. I loved him as I loved few men and join with the thousands of his other friends in deepest grief at his sudden death. I extend to you and your daughter my sincerest condolences in your great bereavement.

JOHN FORD.

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## John S. Kenyon

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NEW YORK, *February 17, 1902.*

Mrs. JOHN S. KENYON, Syracuse, N. Y.:

I was greatly shocked at the unexpected death of your husband. I feel that his loss does not belong to you alone, but all his personal friends, of which I had the honor to be counted as one. Deeply share the sorrow with you. His public services and patriotic citizenship endeared him to the general public.

JACOB A. CANTOR.

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ALBANY, N. Y., *February 17, 1902.*

Mrs. J. S. KENYON, Syracuse, N. Y.:

My heart goes out to you and your daughter in the sad bereavement that has come to you in Mr. Kenyon's death; he will be missed and mourned by all who were privileged to know him.

H. J. COGGESHALL.

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OSWEGO, N. Y., *February 17, 1902.*

Mrs. JOHN S. KENYON, Syracuse, N. Y.:

As a sorrowing friend I tender my heartfelt sympathy at the irreparable loss which has befallen you.

JOHN T. MOTT.





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ALBANY, N. Y., *February 17, 1902.*

Mrs. JOHN S. KENYON, Syracuse, N. Y.:

My heart is sad for you and yours. God alone can help. You have my sympathy.

R. L. FOX.



NEW YORK, *February 17, 1902.*

Mrs. JOHN S. KENYON, Syracuse, N. Y.:

Please accept my most sincere sympathy.

JOHN W. DWIGHT.



ROCHESTER, N. Y., *February 17, 1902.*

Mrs. JOHN S. KENYON, Syracuse, N. Y.:

Please accept my sincere sympathy in your great bereavement; I feel that I have lost a good friend.

GEO. W. ALDRIDGE.



ALBANY, N. Y., *February 17, 1902.*

A. H. SCHWARZ, Supt., D., L. & W. R. R., Syracuse,  
N. Y.:

Please extend to the family of John S. Kenyon our deep sympathy in their great bereavement.

P. W. CULLINAN.



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## John S. Kenyon

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ALBANY, N. Y., *February 17, 1902.*

Mrs. JOHN S. KENYON, Syracuse, N. Y.:

Please accept my assurance of deepest sympathy in your great loss. Your good husband was my long time and loyal friend.

CHARLES R. SKINNER.



ALBANY, N. Y., *February 17, 1902.*

Mrs. JOHN S. KENYON, Syracuse, N. Y.:

You have my deepest sympathy on the loss of your husband. I esteem it a privilege to have known him as a friend.

WILLIS E. MERRIMAN,  
*State Comptroller's Office.*



ALBANY, N. Y., *February 17, 1902.*

Mrs. JOHN S. KENYON, Syracuse, N. Y.:

In dear John's death I have lost one of my best friends; my heart goes out to you.

H. H. BENDER.





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NEW YORK, *February 17, 1902.*

Mrs. JOHN S. KENYON, Syracuse, N. Y.:

Was unutterably shocked to receive news of death of your noble husband. He was my staunch and true friend and I mourn him with a grief that can be second only to that of your own and of his idolized daughter. My heartfelt sympathy is extended to both of you.

CHARLES A. BALL.



BROOKLYN, N. Y., *February 17, 1902.*

Mrs. JOHN S. KENYON, Syracuse, N. Y.:

Shocked at the news of Mr. Kenyon's death. Accept deepest sympathy. I have lost a valued friend.

GRANVILLE W. HARMAN.



NEW YORK, *February 17, 1902.*

Mrs. JOHN S. KENYON, Syracuse, N. Y.:

Please accept my expressions of condolence and sympathy.

ABRAHAM GRUBER.

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## John S. Kenyon

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DELHI, N. Y., *February 17, 1902.*

Mrs. JOHN S. KENYON, Syracuse, N. Y.:

Accept heartfelt sympathy. He was the dearest friend I ever had. I will attend funeral.

WILL B. WOODRUFF.

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ALBANY, N. Y., *February 17, 1902.*

Mrs. JOHN S. KENYON, 601 Warren St., Syracuse, N. Y.:

Have lost my best friend; it was a great shock to me; accept my heartfelt sympathy.

H. B. WHITBECK.

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GLENS FALLS, N. Y., *February 17, 1902.*

Mrs. JOHN S. KENYON, Syracuse, N. Y.:

You have my heartfelt sympathy in this unexpected affliction. Your husband was my life-long friend, and his unlooked-for demise will cause his unnumbered friends to grieve and mourn with his family.

D. S. POTTER.

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NEW YORK, *February 17, 1902.*

Mrs. JOHN S. KENYON, Syracuse, N. Y.:

Please accept most tender sympathy from Mrs. MacDonald and myself.

PIRIE MACDONALD.





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## A Memorial

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ALBANY, N. Y., *February 17, 1902.*

Mrs. JOHN S. KENYON, Syracuse, N. Y.:

May heaven give you strength in your great loss.  
Sincere sympathy.

Mr. and Mrs. T. J. COWELL.



BALTIMORE, MD., *February 19, 1902.*

Mrs. JOHN S. KENYON, So. Warren St., Syracuse, N. Y.:

I have just learned of the sad news; please accept my  
most profound sympathy.

ROBERT E. GILMAN.



NEW YORK, *February 17, 1902.*

Mrs. JOHN S. KENYON, Syracuse, N. Y.:

Greatly surprised upon reading the announcement of  
the death of your esteemed husband; please accept my  
sincere sympathy.

WM. K. PIERCE.



ROSSELLE, N. J., *February 17, 1902.*

Mrs. JOHN S. KENYON, 601 Warren St., Syracuse, N. Y.:

Our love and deepest sympathy in your great bereave-  
ment; have written.

FREDERICK B. STONE.



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## John S. Kenyon

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BUFFALO, N. Y., *February 17, 1902.*

Mrs. JOHN S. KENYON, The Kenyon, Syracuse, N. Y.:

Accept our most sincere and heartfelt sympathy in this hour of your great affliction.

CHARLOTTE E. LEONARD.

\* \* \*

NEW YORK, *February 17, 1902.*

Mrs. JOHN S. KENYON, Syracuse, N. Y.:

Am overcome at news of my dear friend's departure; sympathy to yourself and Alma.

EDWIN M. WELLS.

\* \* \*

SARATOGA, N. Y., *February 18, 1902.*

Mrs. JOHN S. KENYON, 601 Warren St., Syracuse, N. Y.:

Have just heard sad tidings. Accept our deepest sympathy.

FRANCES C. MCNAIR.

\* \* \*

OSWEGO, N. Y., *February 17, 1902.*

Mrs. JOHN S. KENYON, The Kenyon, Syracuse, N. Y.:

Mrs. Henderson joins me in extending most sincere sympathy to yourself and Alma in your hours of sorrow; please advise regarding funeral.

JAMES D. HENDERSON.





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## A Memorial

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From the many letters of condolence which were received by the family the following was written by Mr. Ernest Fay, Journal Clerk of the Senate, who was for many years closely associated with Mr. Kenyon:

STATE OF NEW YORK:

SENATE CHAMBER,

ALBANY, *February 17, 1902.*

DEAR MRS. KENYON.—I cannot express in words the bitter grief and desolating sorrow that came to me this morning when I heard that my beloved friend had left us forever, but I cannot forbear to write a word of tribute from a full heart, and to express to you and your daughter the deep and abiding sympathy I feel for you in your irréparable affliction. The shock of so sudden a departure of one we love, and for which we were so totally unprepared, leaves the mind in a daze and the senses numbed, and it is difficult to realize that never again on this side of the heavenly portal can we see our friend. I sat with him last Thursday evening in the club, as I usually did each evening in the week, and although he complained then of not feeling well, none of us could know that even then he was looking into the valley of the shadow of death.

We shall miss him, day by day and week by week, and mourn for him as it is given to but few men to be

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## John S. Kenyon

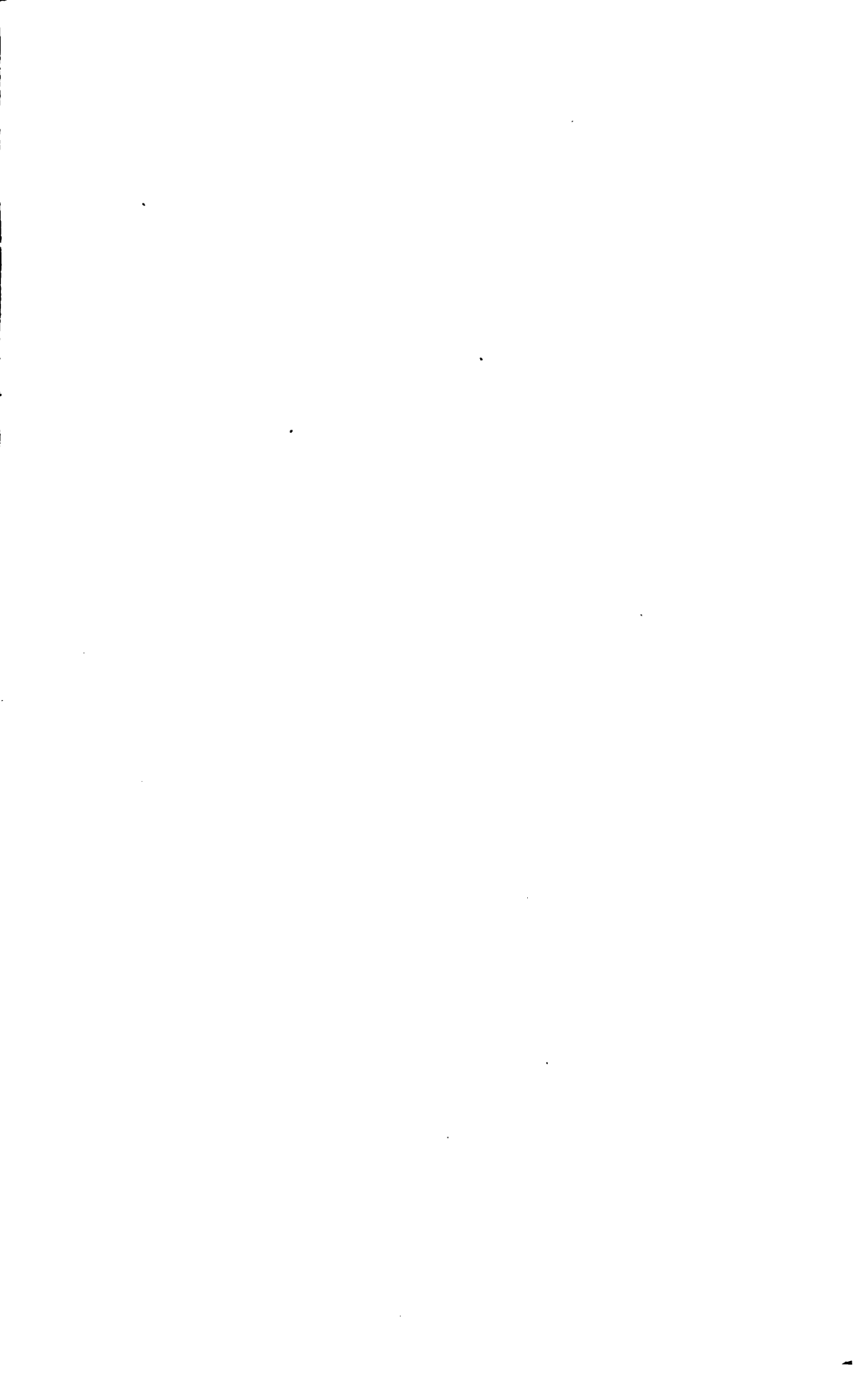
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mourned. All his life was lovely, and he was a never failing comfort to his friends, who felt for him a depth and fulness of affection such as is seldom seen among men. The world is better for his having lived in it, for no one who enjoyed the friendship of John Kenyon and a close contact with the sweetness of his nature could fail to be better for it. Those who knew him as I did must know also that a higher power has seen and recognized the splendid attributes of his character, and has traced for him in the book of life a generous and a gracious judgment. Whatever there may be across the river, John knows now, and if any man, by his life upon earth, is entitled to the richness of the life beyond, he is now enjoying his reward in a full measure.

Again expressing the profound sympathy I have for you in your hour of sorrow, I am sincerely

ERNEST A. FAY.





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## A Memorial

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The following is an extract from the Senate Journal upon the occasion of Mr. Kenyon's resignation as Clerk of that body :

STATE OF NEW YORK:

IN SENATE,

*January 5, 1898.*

The President presented the following communication:

STATE OF NEW YORK:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE SENATE,

ALBANY, *December 31, 1897.*

To the Hon. TIMOTHY L. WOODRUFF, President of the Senate:

DEAR SIR.—Having accepted the position of Secretary of the Board of Railroad Commissioners of this State, I hereby respectfully resign the Clerkship of the Senate.

The kindly consideration I have received from the presiding officer and the members of the Senate impels me to tender to you, and through you to each Senator, my best wishes and kindest regards.

Very respectfully yours,

JOHN S. KENYON.



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## John S. Kenyon

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Mr. Coggeshall moved that said resignation be accepted.

The President put the motion whether the Senate would agree to said motion and it was decided in the affirmative:

Senator Coggeshall offered the following resolution:

*"Whereas, The Hon. John S. Kenyon, who has with conspicuous ability and marked courtesy, filled the position of Clerk of the Senate during the years 1888, '89, '90, '91, '94, '95, '96 and '97, has tendered his resignation of said office;*

*"Resolved, That the Senate regrets the severance of the pleasant and cordial relations existing during such service, and with remembrance of the kindness and courtesy with which he has uniformly acted, extends to him its sincere thanks and wishes him every success in the new field of labor to which he has been called."*

Senator Cantor said he took great pleasure, as leader of the minority, in advocating the adoption of the resolution. During the several years of his service in the Senate, he had found Mr. Kenyon stripped of all partisanship, a just, faithful, and fearless officer.

Senator Malby and Senators Krum, Guy, and White, of Onondaga, added to the encomiums, also Senator Ellsworth, the leader of the Republicans.





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## **A Memorial**

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The President put the question upon the adoption of the resolutions and it was decided in the affirmative.

On motion of Mr. Cantor the privileges of the floor were extended to John S. Kenyon for the session of 1898.



**The Albany Evening Journal, of January 3, 1898, editorially commented as follows :**

### **JOHN S. KENYON.**

A familiar face was absent from the clerk's desk in the Senate to-day when the session began, but those who noted it knew that the absent one had not passed away, but was still enjoying life and a new honor that had been conferred on him by the party which he had served so faithfully and so long.

John S. Kenyon retired from that position in which he had served to the eminent satisfaction of the Senate for a number of years. He was without question one of the best clerks that ever faced the rows of Senators. Prompt and expeditious in all his doings; with a resonant, pleasing voice, always self-composed no matter what exciting subject was before the Senate; never behind in his business no matter how the business of the Senate was being rushed, it may be said without dis-

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## John S. Kenyon

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paragement of any of the long line of able clerks who preceded him, some of whom attained great distinction, that John S. Kenyon was among the very best of all.

Having been chosen Secretary of the Railroad Commission, he leaves the place where he worked so well, and probably will be seen no more in the Senate in an official capacity, unless he should return as a member of that body. Mr. Kenyon is a native of Schoharie county, but at a very early age he enlisted as a private in Company D of the Third New York Cavalry. He was promoted to corporal, sergeant, first sergeant, and at the close of the war was a second lieutenant. He is now a member of that most honorable Order of the Loyal Legion and is a charter member of Root Post, No. 151.

Besides filling the office of clerk of the Senate, Mr. Kenyon has been secretary of the Republican State Committee, chairman of the Republican General Committee of Onondaga county and a member of the committee appointed by the Governor "to recommend changes in legislative procedure."

He is one of the best known and most popular men in the State.





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## A Memorial

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Charles C. Kromer, editor of the *Schoharie Union*, who went to the war in the same company with Mr. Kenyon, in an editorial in the *Union*, says:

"We can personally recollect John S. Kenyon in the years gone by when but a 17-year-old boy, he left one of the most pleasant and attractive homes in Schoharie county, parents and school and became a private soldier in Van Alen's New York cavalry (later on the Third New York) in 1861, and drew his sabre for his country's cause, and he served his country as well, and as faithfully, and as bravely as a private and as an officer as any man who ever donned the uniform of blue.

"John S. Kenyon had the honor to lead the very advance guard of General Bank's column from Harper's Ferry through Winchester and down the historic valley of the Shenandoah for 100 miles in March, 1862, with Ashby's best Virginia cavalry contesting every foot of ground, and treaded the swamps and trails of the Carolinas under Burnside's orders. We just now recall a little incident that occurred at this time. Away back on May 15, 1862, a small engagement took place on the Trent road, a few miles west of Newberne, N. C. C company of the Third New York cavalry had the advance and received the first fire. The commanding officer sent orders by Lieut. George



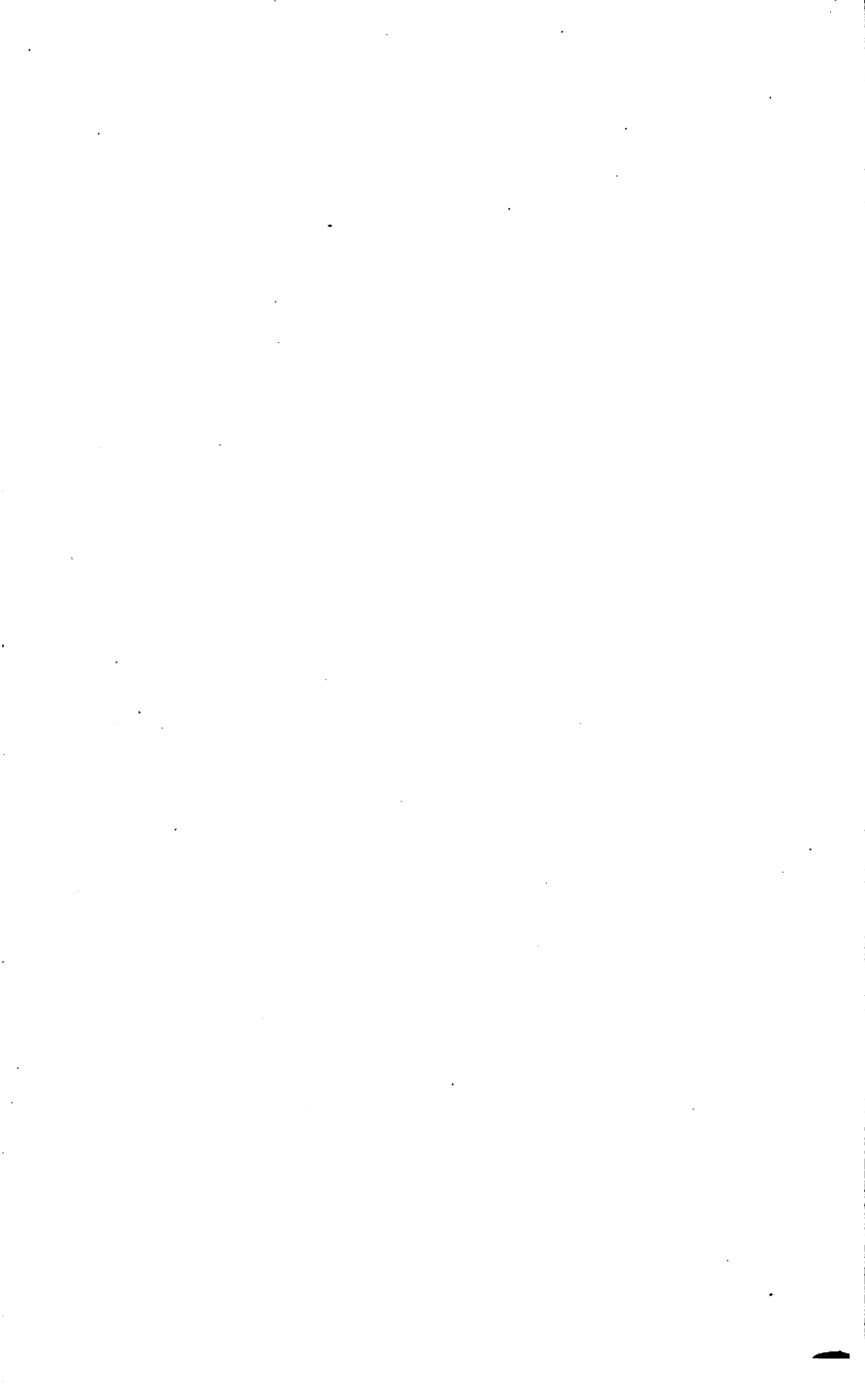
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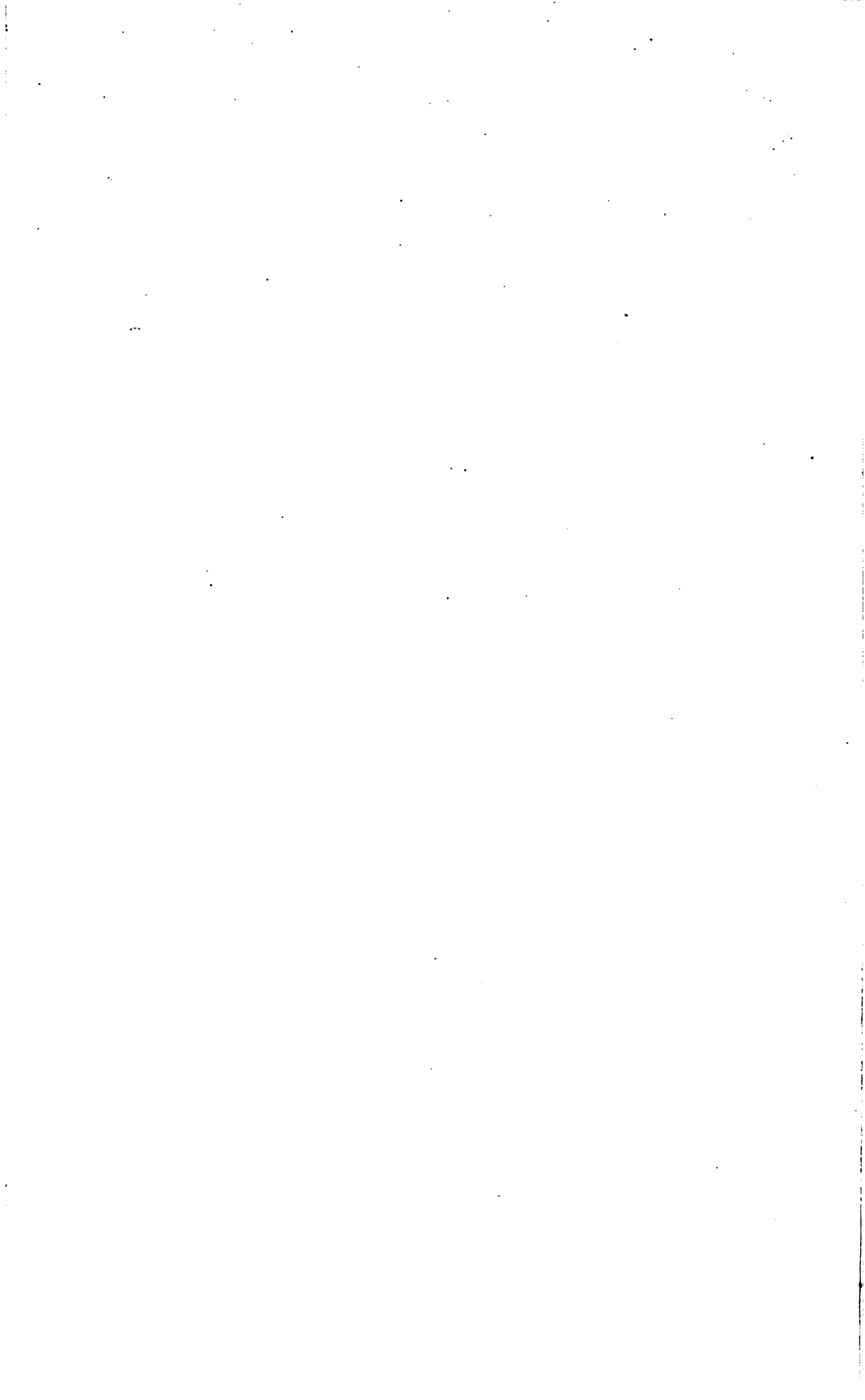
## John S. Kenyon

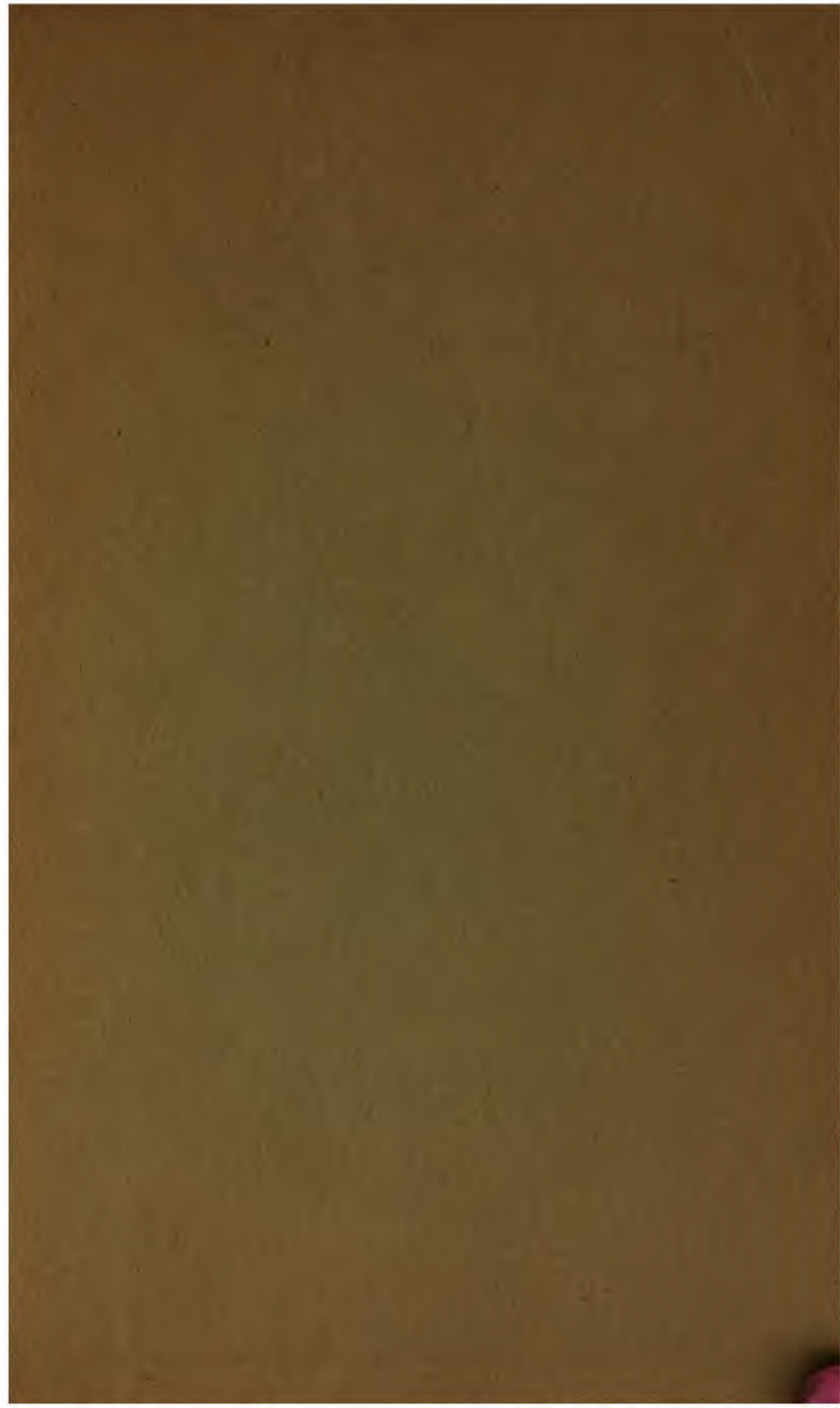
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E. Gouraud, acting adjutant, for the cavalry to fall back. Just as Lieutenant Gouraud delivered his orders he noticed a soldier of C company fall from his horse badly wounded. Gouraud called for assistance to get the wounded man on his horse. Kenyon jumped from his horse, threw his reins to the comrade next to him, ran to where the wounded man lay, lifted him to his feet and hoisted him across the pommel of Gouraud's saddle, where Gouraud held him and putting spurs to his horse swiftly carried the man out of danger. By this time Kenyon's company, D, had fallen back a considerable distance, and he displayed great agility as a runner in regaining his place in the ranks. This was the only time during his service that Kenyon showed his heels to the enemy.

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